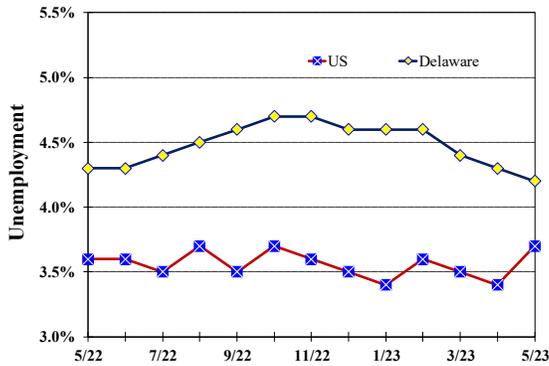


Unemployment Rate

Delaware and US
May 2022 - May 2023



Monthly Commentary

Delaware’s May unemployment rate of 4.2 percent is the lowest rate since just prior to the COVID-19 pandemic in February 2020 when the unemployment rate was 3.7 percent. The number of employed workers increased by 2,300 or 0.5%, continuing the over-the-month upward trend in employment that began in December 2022. May’s Labor Force Participation (LFP) rate also grew from 59.8 to 59.9 over the month as 2,000 workers were added to Delaware’s labor force, the largest monthly gain since December 2020. Total non-farm jobs reached 485,700, their highest level since record-keeping began in 1990.

Delaware Civilian Labor Force

Delaware Residents

| | May 2023 | Apr. 2023 | May 2022 |
|------------------------|----------|-----------|----------|
| Civilian Labor Force | 499,800 | 497,800 | 497,800 |
| Employed | 478,600 | 476,300 | 476,300 |
| Unemployed | 21,200 | 21,500 | 21,500 |
| Unemployment Rate % | 4.2 | 4.3 | 4.3 |
| US Unemployment Rate % | 3.7 | 3.4 | 3.6 |

Source: Delaware Dept. of Labor in cooperation with the US Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Area Unemployment Rates (%)

| | May 2023 | Apr. 2023 | May 2022 |
|--------------------------|----------|-----------|----------|
| New Castle County | 3.8 | 3.7 | 4.0 |
| Wilmington | 6.1 | 5.5 | 5.7 |
| Newark | 3.4 | 3.2 | 4.2 |
| Kent County | 4.4 | 4.5 | 4.7 |
| Dover | 5.4 | 5.3 | 6.2 |
| Sussex County | 3.8 | 4.0 | 3.8 |

Note: Area rates are not seasonally adjusted.
Source: Delaware Dept. of Labor in cooperation with the US Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Hours & Earnings

All Employee (Total Private)

| | May 2023 | Apr. 2023 | May 2022 |
|------------------------|----------|------------|----------|
| Weekly Earnings | \$992.09 | \$1,018.66 | \$974.49 |
| Weekly Hours | 32.4 | 32.4 | 33.0 |
| Hourly Earnings | \$30.62 | \$31.44 | \$29.53 |

Source: Delaware Dept. of Labor in cooperation with the US Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Office of Occupational and Labor Market Information

For data questions, contact Tom Dougherty (302) 761-8062

Delaware Labor Force Trends

Delaware's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in May 2023 was 4.2%, down from 4.3% in April 2023. There were 21,200 unemployed Delawareans in May 2023 compared to 21,500 in May 2022. The US unemployment rate was 3.7% in May 2023, up from 3.4% in April 2023. In May 2022, the US unemployment rate was 3.6%, while Delaware's rate was 4.3%.

In May 2023, seasonally adjusted nonfarm employment was 485,700, up from 483,700 in April 2023. Since May 2022, Delaware's total nonfarm jobs have increased by a net gain of 14,700, a rise of 3.1%. Nationally, jobs during that period increased 2.6%.

Delaware Nonfarm Employment

Jobs at Delaware Locations
Seasonally Adjusted (in 000s)

| INDUSTRY GROUP | May 2023 | Apr. 2023 | Over the Month Change | Over the Year Change† |
|--------------------------|----------|-----------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| TOTAL NONAG. EMP. | 485.7 | 483.7 | 2.0 | 14.7 |
| CONSTRUCTION | 24.4 | 24.2 | 0.2 | 1.2 |
| MANUFACTURING | 27.3 | 27.2 | 0.1 | 1.6 |
| Durable Goods | 10.1 | 10.1 | 0.0 | 0.8 |
| Nondurable Goods | 17.2 | 17.1 | 0.1 | 0.8 |
| TRADE, TRANSP., & UTIL. | 91.6 | 90.9 | 0.7 | 1.9 |
| Wholesale Trade | 12.4 | 12.5 | -0.1 | 0.1 |
| Retail Trade | 50.6 | 50.1 | 0.5 | 0.6 |
| Transp. & Utilities | 28.6 | 28.3 | 0.3 | 1.2 |
| INFORMATION | 3.7 | 3.8 | -0.1 | -0.1 |
| FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES | 50.3 | 50.3 | 0.0 | 2.3 |
| PROF. & BUS. SERVICES | 67.9 | 67.6 | 0.3 | 2.0 |
| PRIV. EDUCATION & HEALTH | 80.3 | 79.9 | 0.4 | 0.6 |
| LEISURE & HOSPITALITY | 53.4 | 52.6 | 0.8 | 4.0 |
| OTHER SERVICES | 18.5 | 18.8 | -0.3 | -0.2 |
| GOVERNMENT | 68.3 | 68.4 | -0.1 | 1.4 |
| Federal Government | 6.3 | 6.3 | 0.0 | 0.4 |
| State Government | 31.8 | 32.1 | -0.3 | -0.1 |
| Local Government | 30.2 | 30.0 | 0.2 | 1.1 |

† Annual changes are not seasonally adjusted.
Details may not add up due to rounding and seasonal adjustment.
Source: US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

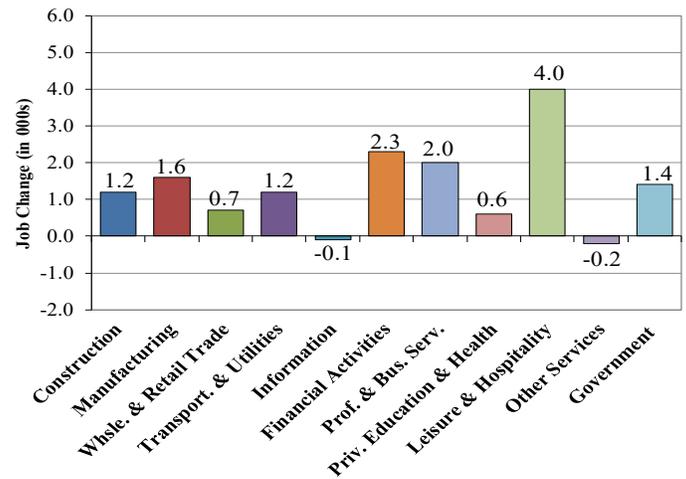
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<https://labor.delaware.gov/divisions/oolmi/>

Delaware Over-the-Year Job Change

May 2022 – May 2023



Consumer Price Index

All Urban Consumers

| | Percent Change to May 2023 from: | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| | May 2022 | Mar. 2023 | Apr. 2023 |
| US City Average | 4.0 | 0.8 | 0.3 |
| Phila.-Camden-Wilm.* | NA | NA | NA |

* Data are published on a bi-monthly basis.

Delaware Annual Net Job Change

Annual Average 2002–2022

